

**Call For Papers**  
**A Special Issue of LRP: *Long Range Planning***

**Organizational Failure**  
*Abstract Due: June 30, 2003*

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The recent spectacular collapses of high profile organizations, and the exponential increase in the number of failures in recent years have brought the field of organizational failure to the forefront of management debate. However, while there is growing awareness on the importance of understanding the causes of organizational failure, there has been little research the topic. Hence, the knowledge about the causes of organizational failure is still scarce and far from being understood. Scholars and managers lack of attention and devotion to the topic of organizational failure is puzzling and should be remedied. If the factors that cause failure can be identified, then managers will be able to make more informed decisions about how to address the causes of failure, and have more time to prepare for best strategies to manage failure. Even when failure is unavoidable, if action is taken early enough, management will have time to carefully examine the full consequences of plausible alternatives such as the timing of exit, best methods of recouping some of the loses by selling the firm's assets, and long term retrenchment strategy.

This special issue provides frontier knowledge of and fresh insights into the causes of organizational failure. The special issue seeks original papers and includes empirical studies, case studies and applied theoretical studies. Papers must emphasize applied management practice while being grounded in solid empirical and theoretical foundations. Some examples of questions and issues regarding organizational failure that fit into this call include:

- What are the antecedents of organizational failure?
- What are the symptoms of failure?
- To what extent are the causes of failure universal?
- Why do management fail to detect warning signals when failure is imminent?
- Why and under what conditions do boards of directors fail to carry out their agency role effectively in failing firms?
- Why some organizations succeed and others fail under the same circumstances?
- Why do firms continue with, and commit further resources to, their strategy in the face of negative feedback?
- Why certain firms are more susceptible to failure than others?

**Submission**

2000-word abstracts for this Special Issue papers should be sent through e.mail or a post mail by June 30, 2003 to:

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Information about the journal is available on the web at <http://www.lrp.ac/>. If the submission is accepted, then a selected list of authors will be invited to submit a full manuscript for peer review by September 30, 2003, with publication of the Special Issue expected prior to the end of 2004.